(b) The said Act already provides stringent penalties for manufacture and sale of spurious drugs which shall not be less than 5 years but which may extend to life imprisonment and fine which shall not be less than Rupees ten thousand.

Study on working of CGHS

63. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have sponsored and carried out a study in the working of Central Government Health Scheme, recently;

(b) if so, the broad conclusions of the study; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken to improve the working of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, the Govt, had got an evaluation study of the CGHS done through Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi. The broad conclusions of the study are as under—

(1) CGHS Coverage.

(i) CGHS is a preferred scheme by the beneficiaries because of their faith in it and also alternative facilities are expensive.

(ii) CGHS facilities to Ex-Vice President, Ex-Governors, Members and Ex-Members of Parliament should not be part of should be extended CGHS budget. Serving/Retd. Employees of autonomous bodies should be extended CGHS facilities.

(2) Introduction of Health Card with a photograph for every CGHS beneficiary.

(3) CGHS should make its own purchases without depending upon Medical Stores Organisations Dt. GHS for procuring the right quality of the medicines at the right time and suggested the following:—

(i) Rational and comprehensive formulary.

(ii) 100% procurement and supply by the CGHS Medical Stores * Depots.

(iii) Specialist prescriptions be restricted largely to formulary drugs. *

(iv) Although the authorised local chemists appointed by the CGHS are giving discount on the Maximum Retail Price, it will still be economical for the CGHS to purchase drugs at Government approved rates.

(4) Developing of Computerized Integrated Information System for CGHS in order to simplify administrative procedures.

(5) Human Resource Development.

Development of an integrated Continued Medical Education (CME) and training programmes for Doctors and different categories of Staff in the CGHS.

(c) Improvement of the various services provided in CGHS dispensaries is an ongoing process and the various suggestions given in the above report of II PA are being examined.

Financial assistance to strengthen immunization programme in Andhra Pradesh

64. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State of Andhra Pradesh has been adjudged to be the best performing State in achieving the population control targets throughout the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; »

(c) whether any special financial assistance is proposed to be given to the State to strengthen its immunization programme and to improve* the institutional arrangements for the overall health and well- being of the individual families; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?